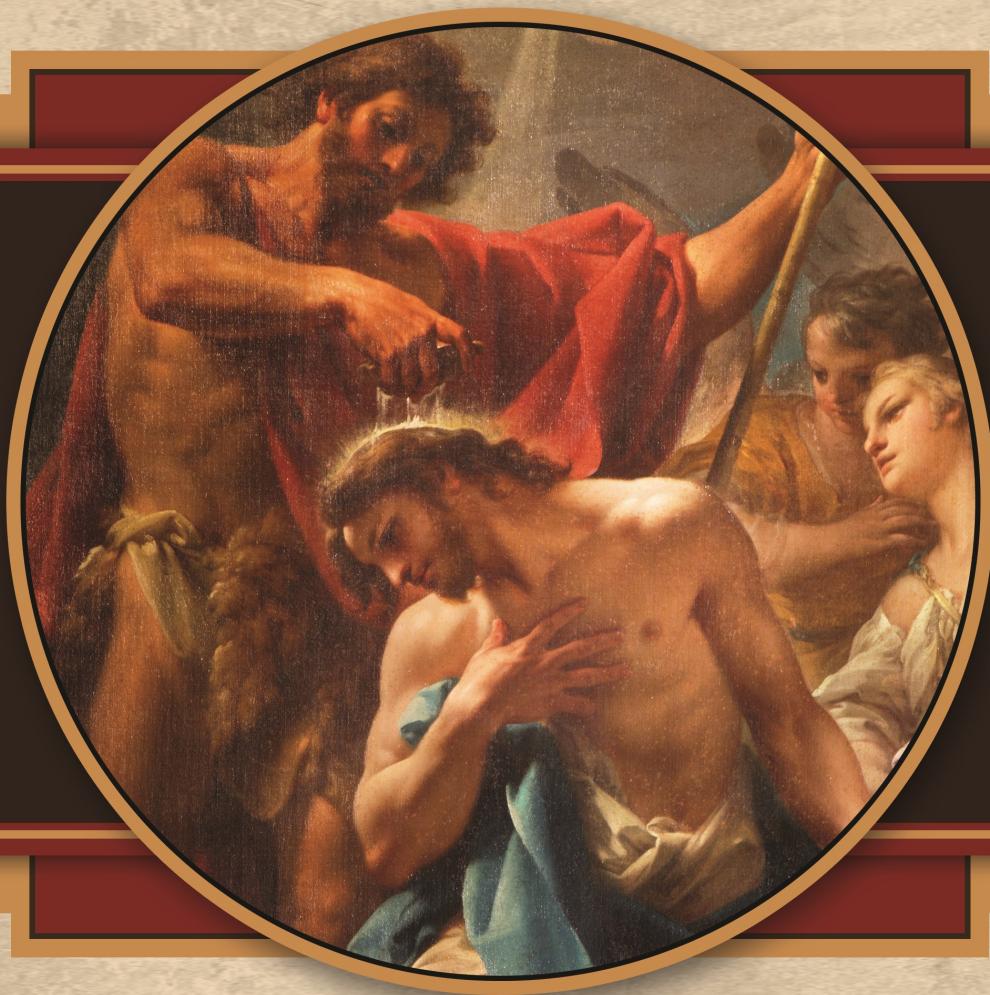




*St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr
Catholic Church
We are a Stewardship Parish*

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 13, 2019



*A voice came from heaven,
“You are my beloved Son;
with you I am well pleased.”*

Luke 3:22

St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr Catholic Church

17500 South 84th Avenue, Tinley Park, IL 60487

www.ststepheninley.com

Parish Office Phone: 708-342-2400 | **Parish Office Fax:** 708-342-1545

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30am—12:30pm and 1—8:00pm | Friday 8:30am—12:30pm and 1-4pm
Saturday Noon—5pm

Religious Education Phone: 708-342-1544

RE Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30am—12:30pm and 1pm-4:30pm | Friday 8:30am—12:30pm
Evenings and weekends by appointment. Please call to schedule.

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Parish School (CJB)

9250 West 167th Street, Orland Hills, IL 60487

Phone: 708-403-6525 | **Fax:** 708-403-8621 | **web:** cjbsschool.org | **email:** info@cjbsschool.org

Pastor

Rev. Tom Bernas

Associate Pastor

Rev. Mirek Kulesa

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. James Finno

Deacons

Robert Conlin

William Engler

Chuck McFarland

William Schultz

Pete Van Merkestyn

Administrative Asst. to Pastor

Karen Opyd

Adult Formation

Barbara Black

Communications

Maintenance Director

Dave Prete

Music Minister

Selina Prasad

Receptionist

Noreen Galvin

Youth/Young Adult Minister

Kyle Groves

Director of Religious Education

Sandi Morgan

Assoc. Director of Religious Ed.

Leslie Krauledis

Religious Ed. Admin. Assistant

Dee Zvejnieks

Religious Education Secretary

Patti Parker

CJB Principal

Mary Iannucilli

CJB Admissions Director

Cynthia Labriola Devlin

Anointing of the Sick—Please contact the parish office if you or a loved one needs this holy sacrament.

Baptisms are celebrated every Sunday at 3pm in English and 1pm in Polish. Please contact Fr. Tom in the parish office for the necessary preparations. New parishioners are required to register. A baptism preparation class is required to have your child baptized at St. Stephen's.

Communion for the sick, elderly, handicapped, or homebound parishioners can be arranged by calling Barbara Black at 708-466-9962.

Funerals can be arranged through the contact the parish office.

Marriages—St. Stephen Parish welcomes the celebration of the weddings of both registered parishioners and the children of registered parishioners. Information is available from one of the priests or deacons.

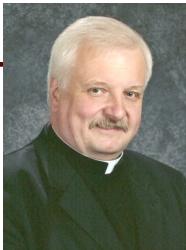
New parishioners are invited to register:

- After the 10am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month.
- By appointment on Mondays at 2pm, Tuesdays at 11am, Wednesdays at 8:30am or Thursdays at 6:45pm. Please contact the parish office.

For those in need:

- **Counseling services** are available through the Holbrook Counseling Center of Catholic Charities. To get help, call 312-655-7725 or visit the website at catholiccharities.net
- For **Bereavement and Crisis Counseling**, please contact Deacon Pete Van Merkestyn. Appointments will be taken on Wednesdays at 10am, 11am, and 12pm. Please call the parish office or email Deacon Pete at denpete@ststepheninley.com to arrange for an appointment.
- For parishioners struggling and in need of assistance, please contact the **St. Vincent de Paul Ministry** through the parish office.
- For those seeking help through a **twelve-step program**, St. Stephen offers English and Polish support groups. Please contact the parish office for more information.
- For information about **Domestic Violence** awareness, services, and prevention, please contact Deacon Bill Schultz at the parish office.

FATHER TOM'S TIDBITS



Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that someone will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit. The type of baptism that John performed was not yet a Christian Baptism; it was a preparation for Christian Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

The Baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Gospels - Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another "epiphany." On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism.

If you have been attending Mass each weekend you may have noticed that many of the same people are serving in the various liturgical ministries, week after week or there are Masses when we are short of liturgical ministers. Unfortunately, because of a shortage of volunteers willing to assist at our weekend Masses, these volunteers are making personal sacrifices and performing their ministries quite frequently. I hope we can change this and increase the level of participation by more of our parishioners, who are attending our weekend liturgies. Serving as a liturgical minister is one of the easiest ways you can serve our parish. The time commitment is minimal, you will serve at the Mass you normally attend, and training will be provided.

Liturgical ministry is an excellent opportunity to fulfill your baptismal call of service to one another. Our liturgies should utilize the talents and gifts that God has given this community to the fullest extent. As members of the Body of Christ, we are called to actively participate in liturgy through presence, ritual action, prayer, silence and song. Some are called to participate also as liturgical ministries – to serve as ministers of hospitality, servers at the table of the Lord, lectors, extraordinary ministers of Communion and as music ministers.

Training sessions have been scheduled for new Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors, beginning this Tuesday, January 15th, from 7-9pm, at Saint Michael's Parish, 14327 Highland Avenue, in Orland Park. If you are willing to help us in serving as a Eucharistic Minister or Lector, I ask that you call Barbara Black at the parish office or email her at barbara@ststephentinley.com so that she can get you registered for the classes.

Every weekend at our liturgies a brown book is brought up to the altar prior to the general intercessions or Prayers of the Faithful. I am not sure that everyone knows about this book and what it contains or its purpose.

This book contains the prayer requests that have been added by those attending our weekend Masses. At each Mass this book is then brought forth to symbolically represent the petitions and prayer requests included being added to the prayers of the faithful. This book is available before all the Masses on the credenza in the back of the church and is available to everyone.

After recent discussions with our parish liturgy team, we will be making some minor adjustments to the process of requesting prayer petitions and prayer requests and having them offered up in prayer. The brown Book of Intentions will be moved to a more visible location in the narthex allowing for greater access to the book, should they want to use it. The Book of Intentions will be brought up as part of the entrance procession, rather than during the Creed, and it will be placed on the altar. A specific petition or general intercession will be added to the general intercession that will reference the Book of Intentions, asking the entire parish community present to pray for the intentions and prayer requests written in the book.

Praying for each other's intentions is an important part of our parish life. These intentions will be remembered in our intercessions at all Masses. If you would like the parish to pray for your intention, please write the intention in the book. The petitions in the book are usually anonymous. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to write prayer intentions in our Parish Book of Prayers.

Just a reminder that our first drawing for our "Queen of Hearts" raffle will take place this Wednesday, January 16th, at 8PM. Did you get your tickets yet?

Have A Great Week!

From Our Associate Pastor

Niedziela Chrztu Pańskiego

W niedzielę po uroczystości Objawienia Pańskiego (w naszej tradycji bardziej rozpowszechniona jest nazwa święta Trzech Króli) przypada święto Chrztu Pana Jezusa. Zamyka ono okres świętowania Bożego Narodzenia. Najstarszej tradycji tego święta należy szukać w liturgii Kościoła wschodniego, ponieważ (pomimo wyraźnego udokumentowania w Ewangeliach) chrzest Jezusa nie posiadał w liturgii rzymskiej oddzielnego święta. Dekretem Świętej Kongregacji Obrzędów z 23 marca 1955 r. ustanowiono na dzień 13 stycznia, w miejsce dawnej oktawy Epifanii, wspomnienie chrztu Jezusa Chrystusa. Posoborowa reforma kalendarza liturgicznego w 1969 r. określiła ten dzień jako święto Chrztu Pańskiego. Pominieto wyrażenie "wspomnienie" i przesunięto jego termin na niedzielę po 6 stycznia.

Teksty modlitw związane ze świętem Chrztu Pańskiego odzwierciedlają bardzo dokładnie i szczegółowo przekazy Ewangelii. Podkreślają przy tym związek tego święta z uroczystością Epifanii, czyli Objawienia Pańskiego. Chrystus już jako dorosły, 30-letni mężczyzna, przychodzi nad brzeg Jordanu, by z rąk Jana Chrzciciela, swojego Poprednika, przyjąć chrzest. Chociaż sam nie miał grzechu, nie odsunął się od grzesznych ludzi: wraz z nimi wstąpił w wody Jordanu, by dostąpić oczyszczenia. W ten sposób uściącił wodę.

Opis chrztu Pana Jezusa zostawili nam wszyscy trzej synoptycy. Najszczegółowej to wydarzenie zrelacjonował nam św. Mateusz.

W dniu chrztu Jezus został przedstawiony przez swojego Ojca jako Syn posłany dla dokonania dzieła zbawienia. Misję Chrystusa potwierdza swym świadectwem Bóg Ojciec. Zamknięte przez grzech Adama niebiosa otwierają się, na Jezusa zstępuję Duch Święty. Z nieba daje się słyszeć jednoznaczny głos: Tyś jest mój Syn umiłowany, w Tobie mam upodobanie.

Od uroczystego aktu chrztu Chrystus rozpoczął swoją misję nauczycielską, którą św. Piotr, przygotowując do przyjęcia chrztu rodzinę rzymskiego urzędnika Korneliusza, opisał w następujących słowach: "Znacie sprawę Jezusa z Nazaretu, którego Bóg namaścił Duchem Świętym i mocą. Przeszedł On dobrze czyniąc i uzdrawiając wszystkich, którzy byli pod władzą diabła, dlatego że Bóg był z Nim" (Dz 10, 38). Jezus miał wtedy trzydzieści lat, gdyż dopiero od tego wieku zwyczaj żydowski pozwalał występować publicznie przed ludem i nauczać. Uważano, że od trzydziestu lat rozpoczyna się pełnia dojrzałości męskiej. Mówimy o mężczyznach, gdyż kobiety nigdy nie miały prawa zabierać głosu publicznie.

W tym wydarzeniu mamy też pierwsze w historii świata pojawięcie się w postaci widzialnej całej Trójcy Świętej: Bóg Ojciec przemawia, Syn Boży jest w postaci ludzkiej, a Duch Święty pojawia się nad Nim w postaci gołębicy (epifania trynitarna)

Św. Jan Apostoł podaje nam miejsce, gdzie miał być Pan Jezus ochrzczony: "Działo się to w Betanii po drugiej stronie Jordanu, gdzie Jan udzielał chrztu" (J 1, 28). Jako dawną Betanię Zajordańską (była bowiem także Betania Przedjordańska ok. 3 km od Jerozolimy, gdzie mieszkał Łazarz z Marią i Martą) wskazuje się dzisiejsze Chirbet el Medesz, gdzie znajduje się potok, wpływający do Jordanu, mający wodę nawet w upalne lata. Tu według biblistów miał się ukrywać kiedyś Elias. Tu osiemset lat po nim miał wystąpić Jan Chrzciciel. W pobliżu Jordan jest bardzo płytki, tak że tedy właśnie prowadził szlak ze wschodu na zachód. Wykorzystał tę dogodną sytuację Jan Chrzciciel, aby zwiastować Mesjasza i przygotować na Jego przyjście serca ludzkie.

Rytualne obmycia były znane w starożytności u wielu ludów. Był to zewnętrzny znak wewnętrznej odmiany, żalu za popełnione grzechy i gotowości zadośćuczynienia za nie. Był to krzyk tępknaty duszy, aby Bóg w swoim miłosierdziu oczyścił ją z win, jak woda oczyszczająca ciało z brudu zewnętrznego, materialnego. W Babilonii istniało święte miasto Eridu, dokąd spieszły tłumy, aby się obmyć. W kulcie syryjskiego bóstwa Jannesa były sakralne oczyszczenia w wodzie i ogniu. W egipskiej Księdze Umarłych spotykamy najstarszy opis rytualnego obmycia niemowląt nowo narodzonych. Panowało więc już wtedy przekonanie, że człowiek rodzi się w jakiejś winie, którą trzeba obmyć. W świątyni w Der-el-Bahri można do dnia dzisiejszego oglądać plastycznie przedstawioną scenę rytualnych obmyć. Rytuał oczyszczenia jest nadto znany w kulcie Demetry, Cybeli, Attisa i Mitry. Zachowany jest on powszechnie do dnia dzisiejszego w Indiach, gdzie do miasta świętego Benares udają się w celach rytualnych kąpieli w Gangesie miliony wiernych bramińskich.

Święto Chrztu Pańskiego z jednej strony objawia nam Jezusa jako umiłowanego Syna Bożego, posłanego przez Ojca w mocy Duchem Świętym dla zbawienia człowieka, z drugiej zaś strony kieruje uwagę na rzeczywistość naszego chrztu. W tym sakramencie bowiem doświadczamy mocy zbawczej Chrystusa, która wzywała z niewoli grzechów. Zostajemy także napełnieni Duchem Świętym i w ten sposób każdy z nas staje się umiłowanym dzieckiem Bożym. Kościół obchodzi w ten sposób święto narodzin milionów swoich dzieci, którym dała nowe, Boże życie woda chrztu świętego. Istnieje nakaz liturgiczny, aby w Wielką Noc przystroić chrzcielnicę i pokazać ludowi jako kołyskę jego narodzin dla nieba. Z tej okazji kapłan dokonuje wtedy uroczystego poświęcenia na oczach ludu wody chrzcielnej. Tego dnia powinno się udzielać chrztu wszystkim katechumenom. Temu służy również publiczne odnowienie obietnic chrztu świętego wszystkich wiernych, zebranych w kościele.

Wraz ze świętem Chrztu Chrystusa kończy się liturgicznie okres Bożego Narodzenia. W Polsce jednak jest dawny zwyczaj przedłużania tego czasu do święta Ofiarowania Pańskiego obchodzonego 2 lutego. Dlatego do tego dnia można zachować szopkę w kościele i śpiewać kolędy.



YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT TO YOUR PARISH

In this season of gift giving, we ask that you please remember your Christmas Gift to our parish.

If you have not as yet given your Christmas Gift to our parish, we ask that you please do so as soon as possible. Your support is necessary in supporting our many ministries and activities.

Thank you for all you do for St. Stephen's Parish!

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS

Our Baptismal Preparation Class for the month of January will take place on Thursday, January 24th at 7PM.

We remind all parents planning on having their child/children baptized that they must attend a Baptismal Preparation Class prior to their child's baptism.

To register for the baptismal class, please go to our parish website, ststephentinley.com. For more information please contact the parish office, 708-342-2400.

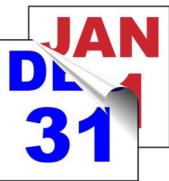


YEAR END TAX STATEMENTS FOR 2018

In the past we have automatically sent out year end tax statements if you had requested them in the past. This year, due to changes in the IRS Regulations, most people will not be able to itemize their deductions, due to the fact that the amount of the standard deduction been significantly increased, **so we will not automatically send a tax letter as we have done in the past.**

If you would like a tax statement of your donations to our parish for 2018, we ask you to either write the letters **IRS** on your weekly contribution envelope or contact the parish office at 708-342-2400 or email karen@ststephentinley.com (put 2018 tax letter requested in the subject line). Statements will be available after January 15th.

*We will mail the statements out on a weekly basis.
Thank you and God Bless you for your generosity....Karen*



LIVING STATIONS

We are looking for volunteers, fifth grade through adults, who might be interested in participating in our Living Stations. There are speaking and non-speaking roles as well as behind the scenes volunteer opportunities.

Anyone interested in working on the Living Stations is asked to come to a meeting, TODAY, Sunday, January 13th, at 4PM in the Parish Office.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Kyle at 708-342-2400 x149 or email at him at kyle@ststephentinley.com

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Scripture Study will begin the book of Judith soon. Most know the story of this Hebrew heroine who used her beauty to save Jerusalem from being invaded, but many have not looked into the story or realize its message.



So please join us as we study and explore Scripture. We meet on Friday mornings in Room 126 from 8:45 AM until 10 AM. You can join Scripture Study any time. We are a very welcoming group, we learn from each other and from our facilitator, and have meaningful, interesting and at times fun discussions. This class is for you whether you are new to Scripture or not.

If you would like more information please contact, Tom Mitus, O.F.S., at 708-479-6980, or e-mail: tomsfo@comcast.net.

BABY BOTTLE PROJECT

Beginning next weekend, our parish will participate in the Baby Bottle Project benefiting The Women's Center of Greater Chicagoland. This non-profit organization directly assists families experiencing crisis pregnancies by offering emotional, financial, material and spiritual support through counseling, clothing and monetary provisions, prayer and other aid. Each year the three Chicagoland locations of The Women's Center handles 5,000 appointments with expectant mothers. We ask that you please take a Baby Bottle home with you next weekend, fill it with your spare change, and return it the weekends of February 9th and 10th or February 16th and 17th.

Thank you for supporting The Women's Center of Greater Chicagoland.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMEDY SHOW 2019

The Knights of Columbus Comedy Show will be held Saturday, February 9th, 2019 in O'Connell Hall, at St. George, 6707 W. 175th Street in Tinley Park. Doors open at 6:00PM.



The scheduled headliner at this event will be Rocky Laporte. Rocky has performed with Second City, Last Comedian Standing and has been on the Tonight Show.

Tickets are \$40 per person. Ticket price includes the show, dinner and drinks (beer, wine, soda and water). Please note that we cannot allow alcohol to be brought in. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. You may bring in snacks for you and your friends if you wish to.

For tickets and information please call Don Clark at: 708-532-8653 or 630-461-6541.

Queen of Hearts Raffle



Q
H

QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE

The excitement of the "Queen of Hearts" Raffle is coming to Saint Stephen. Our "Queen of Hearts" Raffle will begin on the

weekend of January 5th and 6th, with the first drawing being held this Wednesday, January 16th.

The "Queen of Hearts" Raffle is a split ticket raffle with the pot being split between the winner and our parish. The Queen of Hearts raffle puts the 54 cards in a deck, including the two jokers, onto a board face down in no particular order. Then the cards are numbered 1-54. With every chance, a purchaser gets to write a number between 1 and 54 on the ticket. That ticket goes into a drum.

Every Wednesday, a drawing will be held at 8:00PM, at the Side Street American Tavern, 18401 North Creek Drive, in Tinley Park.

If your ticket is drawn, you must pick the Queen of Hearts on the Raffle board to win the pot. If the winning ticket holder has selected the number that reveals the Queen of Hearts, the winner gets 50% of the available pot.

If you are not present at the drawing, you must declare a numbered card from the board and write the number on your raffle ticket stub. If you do not choose a number or if the number you choose had been previously selected, you will be assigned the lowest available number on the board, (i.e., if the number 1 is available you will be assigned #1, if #1 has been selected already you will be assigned #2, etc.)

If the Queen of Hearts is not drawn, the pot will roll over to the next week. The pot will continue to build until the Queen of Hearts is drawn. The game could take up to 54 weeks.

If your ticket is drawn and you draw a card other than the Queen of Hearts, you receive \$25.00 in tickets for the following week.

Tickets are sold in a set of 6 tickets for \$5.00. They will not be sold separately. This is a progressive raffle. All raffle tickets will be discarded following the drawing each week and new tickets must be purchased to enter into the following week's drawing. The ticket purchaser must be 18 years of age or older. There can be only one name per ticket. The ticket must contain your name and the card # you choose to pick.

Tickets will be available before and after all the weekend Masses in the narthex of the church. They will also be available at the parish and religious education offices and they will be available at the Side Street American Tavern.

All funds raised through the raffle will be used to pay down the outstanding debt on the church building. Your support of this raffle is appreciated.

St. Peter tells us, "Each one of you has received a special grace, so like good stewards responsible for all these different graces of God, put yourselves at the service of others."



This is exactly what our staff members, Karen Opyd and Ken Beukema, have done for many years, since the inception of our Parish. They have unselfishly offered of themselves in many ways, to the mission and ministry of the parish. They have worn many hats and have been deeply involved in constantly working behind the scenes to make our parish work so well.

Unfortunately, they have both informed me, that the time has come for them to retire and move on to the next phase of their lives. Karen in early March and Ken at the end of March.

I would like to thank them for their many years of hard work and dedication to our parish. They will be greatly missed and we wish them the best and promise to keep them in our thoughts and prayers, as they transition into this new chapter in their lives. Fortunately they will help with the transition while they are here.

Because of their plans to retire, I am looking for people interested in giving of their time and talents to continue the work that Karen and Ken have started. I have been working to identify the jobs, skills and talents associated with their jobs, which will help me as I work to find their replacements.

I am currently looking to fill the positions of Business Director (part-time), Office Administrator/Bookkeeper (full-time) and Communications Coordinator (part-time).

Have you or someone you know ever thought of using your time and talents to help our Parish? Are you looking for a new challenge for the new year? Have you wondered how you could give back? Have you been praying for guidance on a path for your life? Is this the moment you have been waiting for?

If any of these roles sound interesting to you, please take the time to learn more about them by visiting our website (ststephentinley.com), and consider applying for these positions.



BASKETBALL OPEN GYMS

Coming in January and February of 2019, the Saint Stephen's Men's Club will be hosting Basketball Open Gyms on Tuesday Nights from 7:00PM – 8:30PM, in the Parish Life Center. Specific dates TBD.

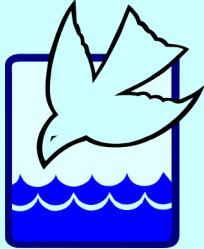
Join fellow parishioners, 21 years and older, on in the Parish Life Center for pickup basketball games. \$5 each for all players – Must be 21 years old or older and a parishioner of St. Stephen's Parish. Check upcoming bulletin for additional information or

*The Christmas Poinsettias that adorn our Church this Christmas Season
have been donated in honor and in memory of the following loved ones.*

We thank everyone for their generosity.

Albert Agresti	Kelley Family	G. Pumo Family
Joyce Albee	Richard J. Klimek	Edward Quinlan
S. Baiamonte Family	Art Kloosterman	Jack Raczko
Frank & Marie Balestri	Mary & Joseph Kowal	Raczko Family
G. Pumo & Bucceri Family	Jean Kraujalis	Mary Ann Riccelli
Elmer J. Bucek	Kreten Family	Ed Rice
Rebaczs Bucior	Laakson & McMahon Families	Mr & Mrs John Rowe
Charles Catania	Michael Leonard	Frank & Alice Russo
Frank Catania	Michael Leonard	William Ruzich
Rose Catania	Mr & Mrs J. Lewandowski	William Douglas Ruzich
Raymond M. Ciscon	John E. & Anne D. Lisicich	Rychetsky Family
Jan & Kunegunda Cwekala & Family	Maurice Losey	Luigi Saviglio
Don Daley	Mary Losey	Lottie Schank
John Deacy	Michael Losey	Chuck, Rose & Chucky Schneider
Ed Deacy	Jean Magiera	Mr & Mrs Daniel Small, Sr.
Eiermann & Grobarcik Families	Jeanette Magiera	Emily & Steve Sochachi
Madge Eisenbath	Daniel Maloney	Salvatore Spalla
William Fairman	Agnes Manny	Palma Spalla
John & Marie Fashing	Leo Manny	Stanley Stabrawa
Robert Flieth	Florence Marek	Mr. & Mrs. Walter Sterczek
Laurence & Lilyan Frawley	McFarland & Carollo Families	Harry Waite
Grace & Paul Gary	William & Joan McGonagill	Mr & Mrs L. Wilson
William J. Giroux	John & Sabina McMahon	Zajace & Dressel Families
Ryan Gorcowksi	Messian Family	Cheryl Zibits
Frank Gorcowksi	Tim Monahan	Zurawski Family
Frank & Corrine Gorcowksi	Mr & Mrs John Niemiec	
Charles-Ryan Gorcowksi	Helen Obiala	
Grill Famiy	Robert Obiala	
Kathleen Haggerty	Robert Obiala	
Robert Haynes	O'Brien & Daley Families	
Jim & Emily Henzl	Michael & Dorthea O'Neill	
Mr & Mrs Frank Jeffers	Bruno & Stella Opyd	
Johnson & Perfetti Families	Stanislaus & Jadwiga Opyd & Family	
Walter & Eleanor Kaminski	Rose Pantano	
Gloria Karrels	Eva & Felix Paulauskis Family	





RECENTLY BAPTIZED AT SAINT STEPHEN'S

We would like to welcome to our parish family these children who were recently baptized here at Saint Stephen's.



Dominic John Vilimek



Cate Elizabeth Balchunas



John James Galich



Leo Joseph Pleskunas

PRE-CANA PROGRAM

Pre-Cana is a program designed to prepare couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. Pre-Cana gets its name from the wedding feast that Jesus attended in John's Gospel.



The program is designed to stimulate discussion between an engaged couple about subjects that may influence and enhance their marriage. Some time is spent in discussion with married couples who share their perspectives on married life. This program is meant to strengthen the couples' commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage.

Saint Stephen hosts a Pre-Cana Program here at our parish. Recently, the following couples attended our Pre-Cana Program.

We ask you to keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they continue their preparations for the Sacrament of Matrimony.



Dan Taylor & Concetta Mitchell



Kaitlyn Scinto & Sean Hahn

*Lord God, the source of all love,
the plan of your providence
has brought these young people together.
As they prepare themselves
for the Sacrament of Marriage
and pray for your grace,
grant that, strengthened by your blessing,
they may grow in their respect for one another
and cherish each other with a sincere love.*



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2 • 2-5 PM

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AS THEY COMPETE FOR THE GOLDEN LADLE TROPHY**
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BUILDING & GROUNDS STEERING COMMITTEE

The Building and Grounds Steering Committee is concerned with the state and condition of parish facilities and property, their maintenance and upkeep. The committee prioritizes and presents needs as part of the budget process and identifies any situations which require immediate action to the Finance Council.

BUILDING COMMITTEE The steering committee plays an important role in the development and monitoring of a master site plan. The plan allows the parish to maximize the use of property and facilities, establish a timeline for the updating of mechanical and electrical systems, and anticipate any building or renovation projects. The committee also provides advice on the scope and cost of capital improvements to the St. Stephen Parish facilities.

Members of this committee have experience in the building trades and professions. Members will meet with the pastor and the parish finance committee to review issues and concerns and take action when necessary to maintain a vibrant parish campus.

We are currently looking for members to be a part of this steering committee. We are looking for volunteers with building, construction and/or maintenance experience such as: architects: mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineers; carpenters; MEP contractors; flooring contractors; painters; project managers; construction estimators; and construction superintendents.

Please contact the Parish Office at (708) 342-2400 if you are interested in being part of this committee. We need your help and expertise.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Information and communication technology is essential for parish employees to work efficiently and for the parish to keep in contact with its parishioners. A technology committee which functions under the Finance Council will provide the expert guidance for the parish to develop replacement and upgrade plans as well as incorporate and integrate new technologies into parish usage. The scope of the committee can cover a number of technology areas, including computers, copiers/printers, phone, video, sound and security systems.



The Finance Council may request to meet with the committee on occasion and will rely on the committee to assess the state of the technology systems and to recommend any budgetary expenditure as part of an ongoing plan.

Members should have some technology skills and knowledge as well as an understanding of the Church's mission in order to ensure that the use of technology will help the parish achieve its broader mission and goals. In the selection of members, knowledge about how to use the technology is preferable to how the technology works but both are needed on the committee.

Please contact the Parish Office at (708) 342-2400 if you are interested in being part of this committee. We need your help and expertise.



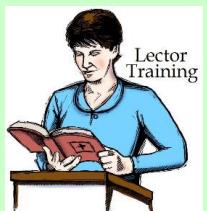
TRAINING FOR NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We are in need of additional Eucharistic Ministers for our weekend liturgies.

Training for new Eucharistic Ministers will take place on Tuesdays - January 15th & 22nd, from 7-9pm, at Saint Michael's Parish, 14327 Highland Avenue, in Orland Park.

In order to be mandated as a Eucharistic Minister for the Archdiocese of Chicago, affirmation by one's pastor along with attendance at both training sessions is required. A follow-up session is offered at St. Stephen to familiarize you with our procedures. This third session is intended to provide practical details specific to our parish.

Please email Barbara Black at barbara@ststephentinley.com if you are interested in helping with this ministry. There is no cost for these classes.



TRAINING FOR NEW LECTORS

In the Body of Christ there exists a wonderful variety of ministries, which are especially evident when we gather around the altar to worship God. By virtue of our baptism in Christ some of us are called to serve as Lectors.

The Lector proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ during the Liturgy of the Word, making God present to the gathered worshiping community. The Word offers those who listen challenges, comfort and encourages us in our faith journey. Within our liturgy, the gathered assembly depends on the Lector to make the Word come alive for them.

We are in need of additional Lectors for our liturgies. Training of new lectors will take place Tuesdays - January 15th & 29th, from 7-9pm, at Saint Michael's Parish, 14327 Highland Avenue, in Orland Park.

Please email Barbara Black at barbara@ststephentinley.com if you are interested in helping with this ministry. There is no cost for these classes



ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

Are you a registered parishioner? Have you been attending Saint Stephen's for a while but haven't yet registered in your own name? Have you been looking for a parish to call your own but haven't made the commitment yet?

What makes a person a parishioner? You are not a parishioner because your parents go here. You are not a parishioner because you went to Religious Education here. You are not a parishioner just because you come to Mass here or were married here.

If you attend Mass here regularly, and if you are an adult (18 or older) Catholic, we encourage you to register as a member of our faith community. Registering in the parish is a declaration of your desire to be a part of the Catholic community and to make a commitment to the life of the parish. Stating your commitment brings many advantages, recognition and responsibility.

Registering in the parish also makes the process much easier when it is time for infant baptism, religious education registration, weddings and when you are asked to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation and formal documentation of your parishioner status is being requested.

To begin the registration process, please contact the parish office at 708-342-2400. We hope that, once you have registered, you will consider the many opportunities to get involved in the parish.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

The Knights of Columbus, Father C.C. Boyle Council #4698, invites all boys and girls ages 9 to 14 to participate in their Council level competition of the 2019 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship on Sunday, January

27th. The Free Throw Contest will be held at the St. Elizabeth Seton Gymnasium, 9300 West 167th Street, in Orland Hills. Registration begins at 5PM and the competition will begin at 5:30PM. There is no cost to participate in the Free Throw Championship. All participants will have a chance to win raffle prizes.

The Boy and Girl winner of each respective age group will progress on to District, Regional and State level competitions. Participants must furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

Registrations are being accepted online at <http://www.knights4698.org/>

For more information please email Jeff Johnson at jjorlandpark@aol.com

Did you know where the Queen of Hearts is?



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STEWARDSHIP

January 13, 2019 - Baptism of the Lord

"John answered them all, 'I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...' " (Luke 3:16)

The Catholic Catechism states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.



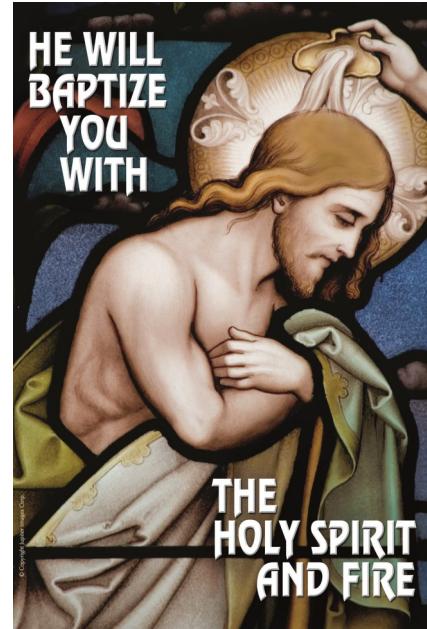
Sharing Our Treasure

Thank you for your continued Stewardship in support of St. Stephen. Please remember that our monthly mortgage payment to the Archdiocese of \$41,500 is paid from our monthly collections.

Please consider making electronic donations through Byline Bank or through GiveCentral.org. More information on how to make electronic donations is available at the back of the bulletin or on our website www.ststephentinley.com

Collections	12/30/18
Regular Sunday	\$19,157.00
Sharing	\$128.00
Christmas	\$9,095.00
Mary, Mother of God	\$752.00
Parish Life Center	\$200.00
Total	\$29,332.00

Give Central	December
Regular Sunday	\$17,502.50
Sharing	\$165.00
Christmas	\$2,280.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$140.00
Parish Life Center	\$1,544.00
Memorials	\$10.00
Total	\$21,676.50



Creation Care Corner

Taking action to protect God's great gift to us, Mother Earth



"All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation..."
— Pope Francis

The Creation Care Team will have its next meeting on Monday, Jan. 14, 7-8:30pm, in the Gubbins Center (NE corner of 167th St. and 94th Ave.). All are invited.

THIS WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP RECOMMENDATION:

Water heaters are the 2nd highest source of energy usage in the home. Save money and significantly reduce carbon emissions two ways: 1) Wrap it in an insulating blanket—a cost of only about \$25 at your local home center; 2) Turn down the thermostat from 140° (the standard factory setting) to 120°. Also, if it's time to replace the unit, consider a tankless water heater. Tankless units heat water only when needed and can achieve greater efficiency than standard tank-type water heaters. When replacing your water heater, make sure it's Energy Star rated.



We pray for those engaged to be married

Sean Carls & Catherine Bowitz - III

Meetings/Events

Sunday, January 13th - Baptism of the Lord

- Baby Nursing Room #153
- Narthex—Respect Life Baby Bottles Distribution
- Narthex—Queen of Hearts Raffle Tickets
- 10am—Meet & Greet PLC
- 10am—Children's Liturgy of the Word Educ. Wing
- 12pm—Polish Choir Practice #156
- 3pm—Baptism
- 3:30pm—Living Stations Practice #125/126 & Church
- 7pm—Youth Ministry Youth Room

Monday, January 14th

- Religious Ed 4:15—5:30pm; 6-7:15pm & Instructional Mass Daily Chapel
- 10am—Ladies Social Club #125/126
- 4pm—8pm Queen of Hearts Tickets Parish Office
- 7:30pm—Financial Committee #126

Tuesday, January 15th

- Religious Ed 4:15—5:30pm; 6-7:15pm & Instructional Mass Daily Chapel
- 10am—Stewardship Committee #126
- 10:30am—Moms and Tots #156
- 4pm—8pm Queen of Hearts Tickets Parish Office
- 6pm—Youth Ministry Youth Room & Bible Study

Wednesday, January 16th

- Religious Ed 4:15—5:30pm; 6-7:15pm & Instructional Mass Daily Chapel
- 4pm—8pm—Queen of Hearts Tickets Parish Office
- 7pm—Adult Choir Church/Choir Room

Thursday, January 17th

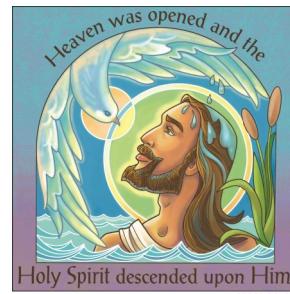
- 4:30pm—Children's Choir Church
- 4pm—8pm—Queen of Hearts Tickets Parish Office
- 6pm - Youth Ministry Youth Room & PLC

Friday, January 18th

- 8:45am - Scripture Study #126
- 4pm—8pm—Queen of Hearts Tickets Parish Office

Saturday, January 19th

- Baby nursing #153
- Narthex—Respect Life Baby Bottles Distributed
- Narthex—Queen of Hearts Raffle Tickets
- 12pm—5pm—Queen of Hearts Tickets Parish Office



Greeter Schedule January 19/20

Saturday 5 PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 10 AM	Sunday 11:30 AM
Coughlin, Jean	Simosky, Flo	Cotrano, Pauline	Beck, Joan
Lacerna, Julie	Stephens, Kathy	Cunningham, Kathy	Gilligan, Julie
Schmidt, Peg	Tyrrell, Eileen	Giroux, Linda	Gilligan, Seana



Please remember our parishioners who have died
and have been born into eternal life.

Patricia Barkauskas, Daniel Reidy, James Quinn

Prayer Requests



Parishioners' names will be read at Mass for four weeks and listed in the bulletin for 60 days. Immediate family members are asked to call after four weeks if you wish to still have the name read at Mass. Names of non-parishioners who are immediate family members of our parishioners will be read at Mass for two weeks and listed in the bulletin for two weeks.

To be added to our prayer list, please contact the Parish Office. Parishioners who are hospitalized and in need of Pastoral Care should contact the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions



Time Intention Requested by:

Monday, January 14th

8:00am Toni Rafferty McLean Family
Clem Piotrowski Janet Kaminski

Tuesday, January 15th

8:00am Barb Onak Bern Daley
Int. of Ciro Children MR. & MRS. Rychetsky

Wednesday, January 16th

8:00am Jeffrey Fox Fox Family
Brother Thomas Sullivan Mike & Mary Moran

Thursday, January 17th

8:00am Joan Bales Peggy & Jim Henzl
Rose Perfetti Family

Friday, January 18th

8:00am Marjorie Pitt Family
Mary Meskill Margaret Lynch
Gloria Renderman Karen Opyd

Saturday, January 19th

8:00am Purgatorial Society Dolores Michalski
Henry W. Michalski Janet Kaminski
5:00pm Manny & Pacanowski Families Jim Dwyer
Toni Rafferty Marilyn Dwyer
Mary Therese Poncer Corinne Prihar
Sylvia McCarthy Yedwofski Family
Papa Family

Sunday, January 20th

7:00am Dorothea O'Neill Family
People of the Parish
8:30am Julia Stalcup Dcn Joe & Linda Stalcup
Luke & Mary Marren Family
10:00am F. William McLean McLean Family
Sharon Bennett Albert & Patricia Wienke
11:30am Bill Rafferty/Mary Ann Hughes Family Antoinette Rafferty
Robison Family
1:00pm Jim Meehan Aidan & Marcie
Za Dusze w Czyscę Cierpiące
6:15pm Joe Collins Szczesniewski Family
James Sleuin Bridget Boyle

Please pray for those who
are sick and in need of
healing from our
Divine Healer:

Lily Acosta Howard Kuzelka
Maria Ariza Dawn Leslie
Kristen Caldwell William Moser
Peggy Castro Susan Naccarato
Joanne Chess Dave Newquist
Mike & Sharon Clavio Tim O'Connell
Dan Clausen Stacie Pavalon Lentz
Karen Cole Rosemary Pagliero
Matt Creen Pearl Paul
Joanne Chess Deacon Pablo Perez
Ken Dellorto Joseph & Sandra Piccolo
Mary DeSuno DorisAnn Ramirez
Bridget Dougal Joy Renje
Francis Foley Joe and Joan Ricciuti
Rich Frain Barb & Bob Ridge
Bill Galvin Joe & Terri Schulte
Sharon Grill Don Schmidt
Sgt. Evan Grober Gene Skowronski
Ryan Grybas Chester Sterczek
Larry Hersh Rachel Swallow
Arlene Kezon Louis Tassone
Steve Kizaric Stella Wiederski
Rex Knapp Michael Wilkins
Margaret Kulpinski

**Please pray for those from our parish
who are on active duty in the military
And serving our country**



Lt. Michael Balcerzak	Capt. Michael Gryczka
L/Cpl Benjamin Brasher	Lt. Dan Kniaz
Capt. Anthony J. Cesaro	Tsgt. Laura Langley
Major Vincent Cesaro	Ssgt. Carl Langley
Capt. Michael Chimienti	Sgt. Joseph Malone
PV2 Joseph Clavio	Capt. Christopher Mazurek
Lt. Dylan Conover	Sgt. Matthew O'Boyle
LCMR Amanda Griffith	Lt. Elizabeth Ernst-Signore
Jacob Elliott USN	LCDR Marilyn Walsh
Sgt. Evan Grober	Major Thomas Walsh

Ways to Support the Ministry of St. Stephen Parish

- **GiveCentral**—Through www.GiveCentral.org parishioners can make automatic donations at the time and frequency they chose. Donating through GiveCentral is a way to simplify your giving and is environmental friendly. Signing up only takes a few minutes. Go to our parish website www.ststephentinley.com and click on the Donate Now button at the bottom of the page. Donations through GiveCentral are processed via your credit card or bank card and at the frequency you choose.
- **Electronic Donations**—St. Stephen accepts electronic donations through Byline Bank. To begin this method of donating, you will need to complete and sign the authorization form and attach a voided check, and bring the items to the Parish Office. The authorization form is located on our website under Support/Sunday Giving.
- **Envelopes**—Registered parishioners can also choose to receive weekly envelopes. Envelope packets are mailed out every other month.
- **Wills and Trusts**—Please consider remembering St. Stephen Parish through your will or trust. Details are available on our website.

Bulletin Submissions

If your parish group or ministry would like to submit a bulletin article, please send your submissions to the following email address: bulletin@ststephentinley.com Our deadline for submissions is the Wednesday, 11 days prior to the bulletin's publication date. Please include a contact name, email address, and phone number when making a submission.

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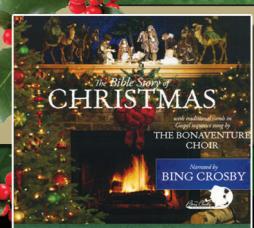
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